

proprietary preparations have been added which, for various reasons, have not been admitted to the Pharmacopeia. The descriptions in the appendix have been made as brief as possible and the articles are classified under the names of the manufacturers. Therapeutic indications are not given, as it is assumed that the physician is able to apply his knowledge of the pharmacologic properties of the ingredients without aids from either the Council or the manufacturer. The non-proprietary remedies admitted to the body of the book are described as accurately and carefully as a painstaking search of the literature would permit.

The descriptions of processes of preparations, chemical and physical, and of the physiologic action contain much information which can not fail to be of immense value both to physicians and to pharmacists.

Over 200 different remedies are described, and after mastering the Pharmacopeia the practitioner and the student should become thoroughly familiar with this presentation of the newer materia medica.

**Essentials of Medicine.** A Text Book of Medicines for Students Beginning a Medical Course, for Nurses, and for All Others Interested in the Cure of the Sick. By Charles Phillips Emerson, M. D., Late Resident Physician the Johns Hopkins Hospital, and Associate in Medicine the Johns Hopkins University. J. B. Lippincott Company.

"Many are published, but few are chosen," might well be said of the many medical text-books which adorn the shelves of our stores and libraries, most of which, excepting of course our well-known standards, enjoy but a very scant popularity. Emerson's work is going to be one of those chosen, for it really and truly "fills a long-felt want." To be sure it does not bring any new facts, nor present anything not found in the usual books placed at the disposal of the student. That is not its purpose. In it we find a very happy combination of anatomy, physiology, pathology, bacteriology, hygiene, diagnosis and medicine,—all so well expressed, so simply written and so logically put, that anybody with but a high school education can understand every word of it. A great many people interested in their own bodies, their own illnesses, or even in medicine itself, unable to devote months to the reading of the usual works on these subjects, surely will hail this book with delight. Besides it teaches just what the profession should want the layman to know, i. e., what disease is, its prophylaxis, and what the physician can do in case of illness, not to mention the difference between a poor and a good doctor. As Emerson says, it is especially for the students of medicine, who frequently lack perspective in their medical studies, who do not learn the A. B. C. of the disease before proceeding to its more difficult study, as well as for nurses who know a great deal in a general, indefinite, inaccurate way, that he has written the book. Those physicians, whose hospital positions entitle them to lecture to nurses, would do well to see what Emerson's experience has taught him to be essential, rather than to continue wasting time and energy, as many do, upon a lot of details which the nurse can never understand or never use. And lastly, we are certain that there are many older men who for years have done but little reading, who will conclude that this book really gives a refreshing presentation of what constitutes our modern conceptions of disease.

R. B.

**Pain: Its Causation; Diagnostic Significance in Internal Diseases.** By Dr. R. Schmidt. Translated by Karl Vogel and H. Zinsser. Appleton, 1908.

This book is a serious attempt to analyze the causes of pain. It is evidently based upon a wide clinical experience and contains much that the diagnostician will find of distinct service. A short chapter based upon the work of Head and Mackenzie has been added, and Head's diagrams as well as many serviceable figures illustrating the chief sites of special pains are appended. The translation has been well done, and we heartily commend the book.

**Retinitis Pigmentosa With an Analysis of Seventeen Cases Occurring in Deaf Mutes.** By William T. Shoemaker, M. D., Philadelphia. Laboratory

Examinations of the Blood and Urine by John M. Swan, M. D. The J. B. Lippincott Co.

After having read this monograph one can well sympathize with the donors in awarding the Alvarenga prize to Dr. Shoemaker. Seventeen cases are analyzed minutely with their histories, local and general examinations and laboratory findings of the blood and excreta. Each case is considered first individually and then all are summarized collectively. A full digest of the literature is given and all pertaining to the etiology, symptomatology, prognosis and treatment of this interesting though comparatively rare condition is considered. Though practically nothing new is added to the existing knowledge of the subject Dr. Shoemaker has left nothing unsaid. The illustrations are excellent. A work of this character is an example of painstaking thoroughness and a credit to American literature.

W. S. F.

**Subcutaneous Hydrocarbon Protheses.** By F. Strange Kolle, M. D., Author of "The Recent Rontgen Discovery"; "The X-Rays, Their Production and Application"; "Medico-Surgical Radiography," Etc., Etc. The Grafton Press, New York.

Dr. Kolle remarks in his foreword that this volume was written to systematize our knowledge of this important branch of plastic surgery. His work is a digest of the literature of paraffine injections to date, to which is added his own experience of several prothetic operations.

The book has no table of contents but is supplied with a very good index. Beginning with a short history of the subcutaneous use of oil and liquefied paraffine, Dr. Kolle gives the general indications for its use. In his precautions he wisely counsels the operator against the hypercritical patient who not satisfied with a normal appearance may influence him to further efforts, thereby undoing the excellent result. Kolle writes emphatically against the use of a general or local anesthetic and favors oft repeated small injections. In very exceptional cases a spray of ethyl chloride may be used over the site of the needle prick.

The various untoward results are considered in order with the author's recommendations for avoiding same. He feels that emboli, and particularly of the retinal vessels, are due to faulty technic or the use of paraffine of high melting point. A paraffine that is semisolid at 70° F. injected as a white cylindrical thread should avoid absolutely this unfortunate complication. The paraffine, its preparation and the instruments are all fully described.

A chapter is devoted to the sterilization of the patient and instruments; and then the regions of the body amenable to this form of correction are considered seriatim. The book is worth possessing and should prove an invaluable guide to one engaged in this work.

W. S. F.